

What Is ATSDR?

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) is a federal public health agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It is ATSDR's responsibility to determine, as best as possible, whether people have harmful health effects from their exposure to hazardous substances.

ATSDR's Mission

To serve the public by using the best science, taking responsive public health actions, and providing trusted health information to prevent harmful exposures and disease related to toxic substances.

ATSDR's Public Health Assessment Process

1. Review available environmental data at a site.
2. Identify ways people might come in contact with chemicals, such as through water, air, soil, sediment, etc.
3. Determine if people are being exposed.

Who are the exposed people?



How often did the exposures occur?

How were these people exposed?



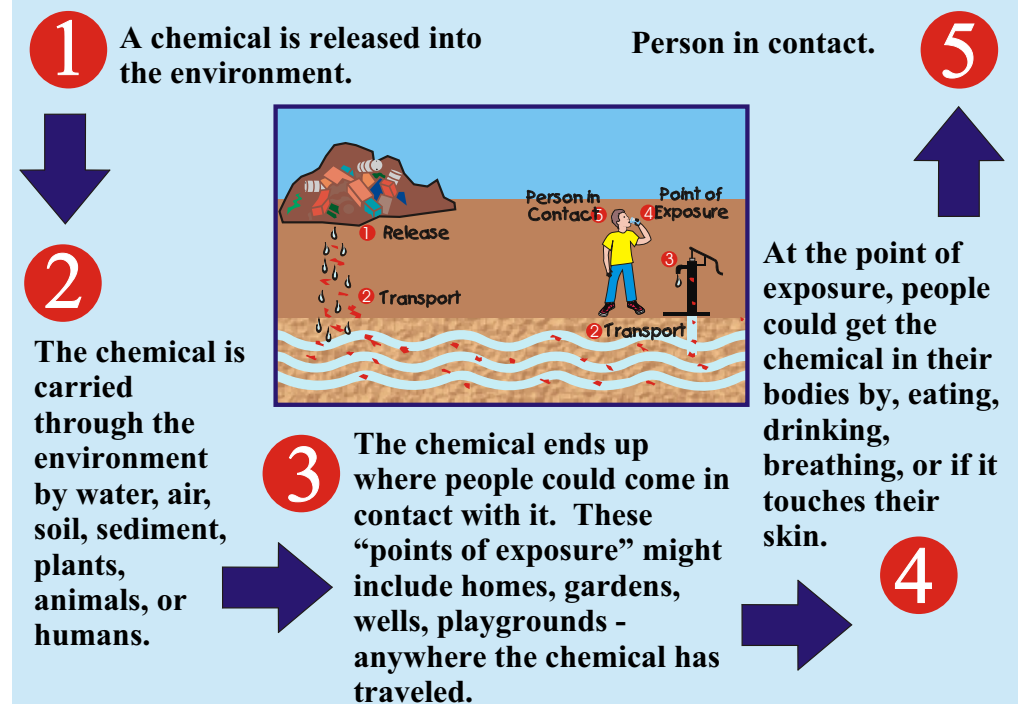
How much of the chemical were people exposed to?



How long did the exposures last?

4. Determine how that exposure might affect public health.
 - ➔ Not harmful
 - ➔ Can not be determined
 - ➔ Harmful
5. Provide conclusions and recommendations.

How Are People Exposed?



ATSDR's Commitment to Communities

- ➔ Encourage people to join in ATSDR's activities.
- ➔ Listen so we can better address the communities' health concerns.
- ➔ Give people the tools and information they need to participate in ATSDR's activities.



For more information call
1-888-42-ATSDR or visit www.ATSDR.CDC.gov